Mass. Historical Society

[Fenway, Boston, MA], 1917-1930

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
1154 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON.

April 25, 1917.

This Society wishes to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of *Exhibition of United States and Colonial Coins, January 17th to Feb. 18th, 1914. Catalogue.* for which it returns grateful thanks.

Samuel A. Green,
*Librarian.*

The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th Street,
New York,
N. Y.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FENWAY BOSTON

15 May 17

Dear Sir

Our Treasurer (Mr. Lord) and myself propose to visit your building on Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday morning (May 22-23) to see how you house your collections, as this Society faces that problem. I give this notice in the hope that you, or one competent to explain the details, may be found.

My sentiments
Worthington C. Ford

May 16th, 1917.

Worthington C. Ford, Esq.,
Massachusetts Historical Society,
Fenway, Boston.

Dear Sir:-

I have your letter of the 15th, and we shall look forward to seeing Mr. Lord and yourself at our Society building on next Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday morning. Both Mr. Wood, our Curator, and I expect to be here, and it is possible Mr. Newell, our President, will join with us in welcoming you.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FENWAY BOSTON

19 May 17

Dear Mr. Roe:

Mr Lord and I will visit your building on Wednesday morning, May 23, probably about ten o'clock. Pray make no ceremony, as we are on practical measures only — to study your cases.

Very truly yours
Worthington C. Ford

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FENWAY BOSTON

June 1, 1917.

Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Secretary,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155th and 156th Streets,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Noe:

Let me thank you and your colleagues for your courteous attention to Mr. Lord and myself during our recent visit to the Numismatic Society. It is a pleasure to find a Society so conducted as to impress the visitor with ability and the true sincerity of the collector.

Having imposed thus far upon your courtesy, I would go one step farther--merely to repeat what I said to you in person. When you obtain the estimate for your proposed coin case, I should like to know the exact price and if it would be possible for this Society to participate in the benefit of the number, say to the extent of two or possibly three cases. The number which we can take will of course depend upon the price, but I think we can count upon two certainly and possibly three. I shall lay the question before my Council on the 14th, but if you are not ready to give the terms by that time, there will be no haste, as I can state the question and leave the fulfilment until autumn. I shall be very glad thus to avail myself of your so much wider experience in the storage of coins and medals.

Very truly yours,

Worthington C. Ford

June 2nd, 1917.

Worthington C. Ford, Esq.,
Massachusetts Historical Society,
Fenway, Boston.

Dear Mr. Ford:-

We appreciate very heartily your letter of June 1st - it is very pleasant to receive such expressions of satisfaction. This brief note is merely to acknowledge your letter, and to say that I will communicate with you further probably before June 14th. I believe there will be no difficulty in arranging matters as you suggest.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

June 8th, 1917.

Worthington C. Ford, Esq.,
Massachusetts Historical Society,
Fenway, Boston.

Dear Mr. Ford:-

Referring to your letter of June 1st regarding the metal cabinets, I beg to advise that we received the final estimate on these - just under $425, F.O.B. Jamestown, N. Y. We should be very glad indeed to have you "come in" on our agreement with the manufacturers, and have your confirmation of the number you will take, whether two or three, as soon after the meeting of your Council on June 14th as it is possible.

You understand, of course, that we are to have a sample case made and tried out before going ahead with the further orders. This implies that there will be a delay of several months before the first cabinet is delivered to us, an interval during which we are trying it out, and then perhaps two months further delay before the remainder of the order is completed. The bill for your cabinets would therefore not be presented until sometime during the winter, although the order would have to be given not later than June 20th.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

P. S. It is possible that we may induce the Manufacturer to make the price quoted above include delivery at Boston, and this we will endeavor to do. We are asking that they send you a blue print for your use in presenting the matter to your Council.

June 19th, 1917.

Worthington C. Ford, Esq.,
Massachusetts Historical Society,
Fenway, Boston.

Dear Mr. Ford:-

Referring to your letter of the 1st and our reply of June 8th, may I ask that you let us know immediately the decision of your Council on the 14th with regard to the steel cabinets. In explanation I would say that we are endeavoring to bring this matter to its final form on Friday of this week, and would appreciate knowing what your Society decided to do. The final price may hinge somewhat on the number of cases ordered, and that is my reason for asking a reply from you by Thursday.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FENWAY BOSTON

June 19, 1917.

Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Secretary,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, New York City.

Dear Mr. Noe:

Our Treasurer went West, so I have been unable to give a definite order for the coin cases. This I am now able to do. The Society will take Two Curtain Cases, according to specification, at $356.00 each. We do not care for the cupboard nor for the end pieces. We would wish felt lining in the drawers, and this was to be $158.70 in addition to the price of the case. For the two cases, therefore, the sum will be $1029.40, according to the letter from Jamestown. If you are able to secure further offsets, the Society will be very glad to enjoy your privileges. As it is we are much indebted to your courtesy in this matter.

May I further impose upon your courtesy and ask you to send one each of the little coin boxes of pasteboard which you use within the trays, together with the maker and the price in quantity? I shall be very happy to pay for the samples. In describing them I found that they have only recently become known here and are not yet in general use.

Sincerely yours,

Worthington C. Ford

June 22nd, 1917.

Mr. Worthington C. Ford,
Massachusetts Historical Society,
Fenway, Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Ford:-

Your favor of June 19th evidently crossed our letter of about the same time. We have given the order to the Art Metal Construction Company to make six and a half cases for us and two for you. I think it was our understanding that we were to have a sample case made for ourselves to test and try out any faults, &c. before giving the order definitely to go ahead with the balance of our cases and your cases. If, however, you do not care to wait for the sample case to be made first, let us know and we will request the Art Metal people to begin construction on yours now. Although they state it will take about three months to manufacture these, we can not get any guarantee from them as far as time, and we are not over sanguine on account of the war, &c. if they can not make prompt deliveries.

We note that you do not care for any ends or fillers. In case you do not appreciate just the construction of these cases, I will state that the ends of the cases as they are now are constructed to fit up close to one and other, and consequently these ends are not finished sufficiently to be looked at, as the rivets which fasten the runners for the trays to slide on will show through. Where one of these ends could be against the wall, or if you please have the two side by side it is not necessary to have end pieces for these, but if any end is in sight we would advise you to have a detachable end.

We have also requested the construction people to make some tests concerning the glue or material they are going to use in fastening the felt into the drawers, as it should be without smell or properties that would tarnish or injure the coins in any way.

Under separate cover we are sending you samples of the coin boxes we use here. Besides these we have some larger ones increasing by half an inch. Also we have some odd shaped boxes for badges, odd shaped coins, &c. We have had these made by various concerns, and the prices generally range between $14.00 and $16.00 per thousand, provided an order of several thousand is given at one time. We are having some made of the three smaller sizes by F. Rudnick, 53 West 14th Street, who has guaranteed to make them at $10.00. They have not been delivered to us yet so we can not tell just how they will look. As these boxes bulk up quite large, we think that the freight charges might be rather high, and would advise you to try some of your local paper box manufacturers.

We remain,

Yours very truly,

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FENWAY BOSTON

June 23, 1917.

Mr. Howland Wood,
American Numismatic Society,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Thank you for your letter of June 22. Our former notes must have crossed one another, and I did not repeat the order believing that it had reached the proper hands in time. The Society is in no haste about receiving the cases. I would much prefer to wait until your sample case has tried out the possibilities and defects, and I am entirely willing to wait until after the cases for the Numismatic Society have been finished.

As to the ends, the two cases fit into a small room so that no sides will be visible to the visitor. Under these circumstances I thought it better to omit the side pieces. Some day we will have a regular coin room, and the question of finish can then be settled quite as well as now. I understand that these metal sides are not unlike those used on correspondence cases, differing only in the measurement. We prefer, therefore, to wait until our permanent location of the coin collection can be determined, and that cannot be until we have secured the extension of our present building.

I am very glad to know of your tests on glue which will be used in fastening the felt into the drawers. I again experience the advantage of going direct to the expert for the best solution of the problems here. Thank you for the boxes for containing coins. I will see what can be done here, and govern myself accordingly.

Sincerely yours,

Worthington C. Ford

February 5th 1930

Massachusetts Historical Society

Boston, Mass.

Attention of the Librarian

Dear Sir:

I have to-day received from the Library of Congress, cards for the photostat reproduction of the Laws, Statutes and so forth, of Philip V of Spain, from 1700 to 1746. I know that this is one of the eleven photostatic copies, and because of its importance for a library such as ours, I am venturing to ask if you know whether another copy is available and whether you will be so good as to inform me of its probable cost? Will you also be so kind as to tell me the number of pages and the size of them?

Thanking you in anticipation, I beg to subscribe myself,

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FENWAY BOSTON

May 6, 1930.

Mr. Sidney P. Noe, Secretary,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway between 155th and 156th Streets, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Noe:

The size of the Laws, Statutes etc. of Philip V of Spain, is about 7 x 11 inches. I shall be able to furnish you with a photostat copy from our negatives at about ten dollars. It is likely to be somewhat less, I think.

Sincerely yours,

Julius H. Tuttle,
Librarian.

May 17, 1930

Massachusetts Historical Society

Fenway, Boston.

Attn. Julius H. Tuttle, Librarian

Dear Sir:

Your note of May 8th has just reached me and we should very much appreciate it if you will make a photostat copy of Laws, Statutes, and so forth, at a cost not to exceed ten dollars.

Very truly yours,

Secretary.